

UTAH STATE CAPITOL: INTERPRETIVE ELEMENTS INVENTORY

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Element Type: Outdoor Feature

Code: OF-4

Element: Date Garden

Location: South of Mormon Battalion Memorial on southeast grounds

Theme/Message:

The current date and the yearly theme portrayed through the garden's plantings

Description:

Garden designed to change according to yearly themes. This plot of shrubs shows the day's date and describes the yearly theme.



Element Type: Outdoor Feature

Code: OF-5

Element: Utah Garden

Location: In the plaza north of the Capitol

Theme/Message:

Utah's topography and vegetation are varied.

Description:

Garden shaped like the state of Utah, with flowers and shrubs planted specifically to represent the various cities, lakes, mountains and other topographic features of the state. Pathways represent major highways and freeways.



Element Type: Outdoor Monument

Code: OM-1

Element: Vietnam War Memorial

Location: West grounds

Theme/Message:

Honoring Utahns killed during the war and those who served in Vietnam

Description:

Bronze statue of a soldier by sculptor Mark Davenport, surrounded by sculptor Clyde Ross Morgan's circular wall, portions of which contain names of Utahns killed during the Vietnam War

Background Information:

Only five states in the country sent more soldiers than did Utah. This memorial lists the name of 388 men and women who died or are missing in action.



Element Type: Outdoor Monument **Code:** OM-2

Element: Utah/Civil War Memorial

Location: Southwest grounds

Theme/Message:

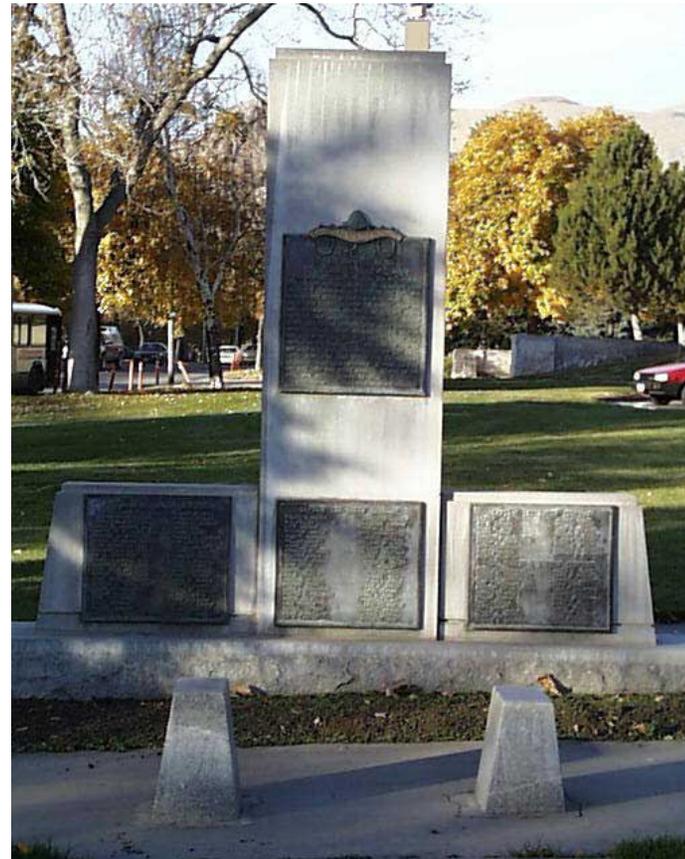
Honoring Utahns who served and died in the Civil War; list of names

Description:

Daughters of Utah Pioneers plaques with raised letters, mounted to granite column and pedestals

Background Information:

Monuments surrounding governmental buildings express the gravitas, or the importance of governmental work. Civic monuments became particularly in vogue in America between 1880 and 1915, the golden age of American public sculpture. A greater historical consciousness aroused by the Civil War, the Spanish American War and the four hundredth anniversary of Columbus's voyage compounded with dramatic social changes at the turn of the century made concrete expressions of historical and traditional values seem important and valuable as community markers or points of reference.



Element Type: Outdoor Monument **Code:** OM-3

Element: Last Surviving Pioneers Monument

Location: South end of southwest grounds

Theme/Message:

Honoring the last surviving Utah pioneers

Description:

Daughters of Utah Pioneers plaques with raised letters, mounted to granite slab



Element Type: Outdoor Monument

Code: OM-4

Element: Harriman Memorial

Location: Just off front walkway in front of capitol

Theme/Message:

Brief biographical sketch of Harriman

Description:

Bronze plaque mounted to large concrete slab



Element Type: Outdoor Monument **Code:** OM-5

Location: On sidewalk in front of capitol

Theme/Message:

Tribute to the Indian chief who befriended the Pilgrims after they landed in Massachusetts

Background Information:

Cyrus Dallin's statue of Massasoit, the chief of the Wampanogas greeting the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, was first erected at Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1921. The original plaster figure was given to Utah by Dallin the next year and displayed for years in the Capitol rotunda.¹⁵² In 1927 The Nicholas Morgan St. Foundation funded the duplication of the statue in bronze. It was placed in the gardens in front of the Capitol on a granite boulder on 8 January 1959.¹⁵³ The base sits in the center of a circular textured concrete base with concrete boxes on either side to relate the heroic size statue to its outdoor surroundings.¹⁵⁴ Cyrus Edwin Dallin, perhaps Utah's most well known sculptor, lived until 1944. He received national acclaim for his sculptures which were on display in numerous public buildings in both Utah and the east coast. Born in Springville, Utah, Dallin was a son of Utah pioneers who showed early on extraordinary talent. Educated in Springville, Boston and in Europe, Dallin won numerous honors for his work including the gold medal of the American Art Association, honorable mention at the Paris Salon, and a first class medal at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, 1893 among others.¹⁵⁵ Although the work of a nationally known figure, the Massasoit sculpture was controversial in Utah because he did not represent a local tribe and a continuing debate regularly surfaced about its suitability for such prominent placement in the front of the state Capitol.

Element: Chief Massasoit Monument

Description:

Bronze sculpture by Utah sculptor Cyrus Dallin



Element Type: Outdoor Monument **Code:** OM-6

Element: Mormon Battalion Memorial

Location: Southeast Grounds

Theme/Message:

Commemorates the sacrifices made by 500 Mormon pioneer volunteers who joined the U.S. Army during the Mexican War.

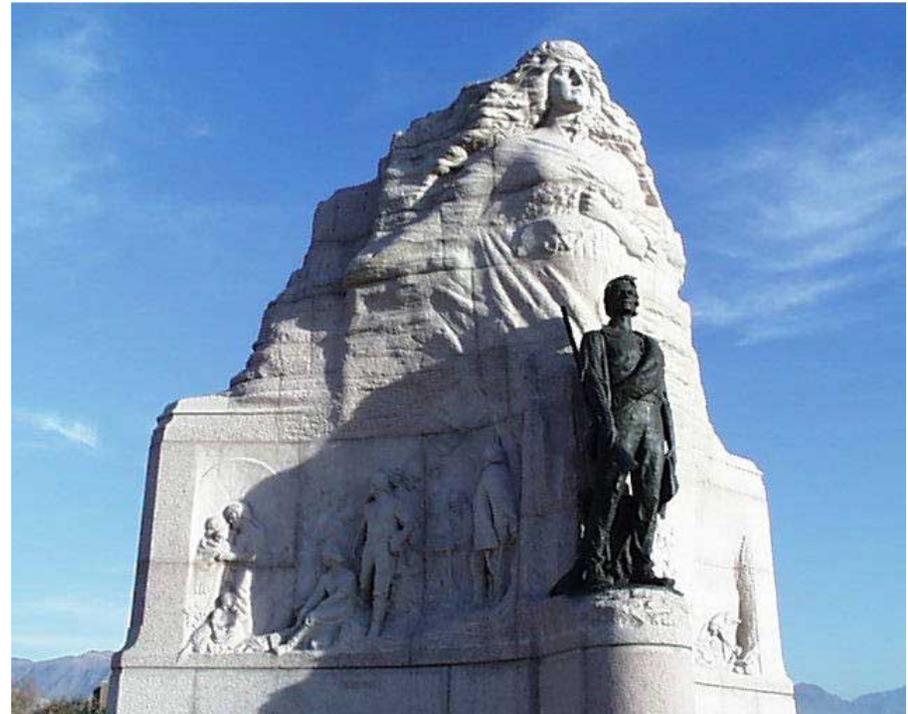
Description:

Large stone monument with frescoes and bronze statue sculpted by Gilbert Riswold

Background Information:

Gilbert Riswold sculpted the Mormon Battalion monument in 1927. This bas relief sculpture emerged from the rough texture of the rock itself. This monumental sculpture tells the story of the men who left the Mormon wagon train in Iowa to travel with U.S. troops en route to the conflict in Mexico. On each side of the monument are different narratives—to the northwest the enlistment, to the southwest, the march, to the southeast, the arrival of the Pueblo Detachment in the Salt Lake Valley in 1847, and the discovery of Gold in Sutter's Mill in California in 1848 to the northeast.

The 1915 legislature appointed a commission to select a site on the grounds for a monument recognizing the Mormon Battalion. The monument is located on the site chosen by the commission and measures one hundred feet by sixty feet.



Element Type: Outdoor Plaque

Code: OP-1

Element: Constitution Revered Plaque

Location: Southwest grounds

Theme/Message:

Divine origins of the U.S. Constitution

Description:

Daughters of Utah Pioneer's bronze plaque w/raised letters, mounted to large granite boulder Approximately 20" x 20" Daughters of Utah Pioneer's bronze plaque w/raised letters, mounted to large granite boulder



Element Type: Outdoor Plaque

Code: OP-2

Element: Ensign Peak Plaque

Location: Southwest grounds

Theme/Message:

Ensign Peak named by Mormon pioneer leaders atop the mountain several days after their arrival in the valley in July 1847.

Description:

Post-mounted anodized aluminum display



Element Type: Outdoor Plaque

Code: OP-3

Element: Beehive Plaques & 1976 Time Capsule

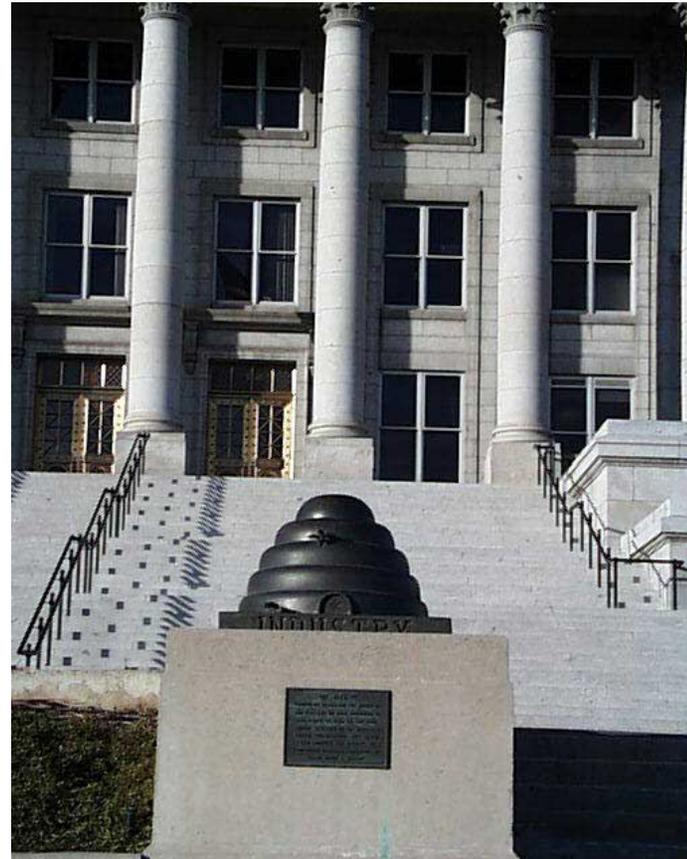
Location: Near flagpole on front sidewalk south of capitol

Theme/Message:

The beehive is the state symbol and represents the concept of an industrious populace. The time capsule contains memorabilia from 1976.

Description:

Two bronze beehives and plaques with raised letters, attached to granite bases; the time capsule is enclosed inside granite base.



Element Type: Artwork

Code: A-1

Element: Mt. Fujiyama Silk Embroidery Mural

Location: On the wall near the north entrance on the first floor

Theme/Message:

Friendship between Japan and the United States in 1940

Description:

Large wall-hanging silk tapestry depicting Mt. Fujiyama

